

29 Sept 2003

Dear Colleague:

One of the outcomes of the North American Carbon Program (NACP) Joint PI Meeting held May 12-14, 2003, was a recommendation that the purpose, location, and timing of intensive field activities under NACP be further examined and that additional ideas for “intensives” be given due consideration. At the Carbon Cycle Science Steering Group (CCSSG) meeting immediately thereafter, a decision was made to encourage the submission of White Papers from individuals or groups interested in suggesting possible NACP field intensive research or campaigns. Please understand that these intensives were envisioned primarily as a way of evaluating methodological approaches and testing key hypotheses. They should focus on addressing specific, challenging issues that are critical to the success of the overall NACP, that require unusual concentrations of resources, and that are time sensitive (i.e., lack of progress on this topic hinders other major elements of the program).

We are now providing guidance on what to do if you wish to submit a White Paper.

- 1) Content. Please describe the intensive field research: science/methodological issue to be resolved and its importance to the overall goal of NACP; location and timing; field program design; types of measurements, process studies, modeling, etc. activities needed; synergy with other activities/programs; any other important features.
- 2) Length. The full text should not exceed 5 pages.
- 3) When to submit. We would like to receive all White Papers by December 4, 2003.
- 4) Where to submit. Please e-mail to Gloria Rapalee at: [grapalee@usgcrp.gov](mailto:grapalee@usgcrp.gov) (please put “NACP Intensive White Paper” in the subject line).  
Alternatively, a paper copy may be mailed to:

Ms. Gloria Rapalee  
Carbon Cycle Science Program Officer  
Climate Change Science Program Office  
1717 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 250  
Washington, DC 20006

The Carbon Cycle Interagency Working Group (CCIWG) will organize a process to review the suggested intensive field research activities or campaigns and consider how the best ideas can be integrated into its full implementation planning for NACP. This process will very likely involve CCIWG and CCSSG members and others involved in planning NACP. We will evaluate options for the first field intensive starting in December based on the White Papers received by December 4, 2003. This may be an ongoing process, with additional intensives considered at some time in the future.

Please be aware that the White Papers will be considered for their information content only; our intention is to post all credible submissions on our web site and, possibly, include them as appendices to the NACP Implementation Plan. Submission will neither guarantee that a suggested intensive field campaign or research activity will be included in NACP plans nor assure that its authors and/or proponents will be included in any subsequent funded research. If an intensive field activity is incorporated into the NACP plan, opportunities to participate will be offered through usual agency mechanisms (program plans, calls for proposals, etc.).

Background information on NACP can be found at:

NACP Report: <http://www.carboncyclescience.gov/nacp.pdf>

Draft NACP Implementation Plan (as of May, 2003):  
[http://jasper.stanford.edu/globalecology/CIWDGE/home/NACP/implementation\\_plan\\_may031.pdf](http://jasper.stanford.edu/globalecology/CIWDGE/home/NACP/implementation_plan_may031.pdf) (this plan is currently being revised, and the revision may not be available before the Dec. 4 due date; when it is, it will be posted at <http://www.carboncyclescience.gov/> ).

Also general information on the U.S. Carbon Cycle Science Program can be obtained at:  
<http://www.carboncyclescience.gov/>

Sincerely,

Diane E. Wickland and Roger C. Dahlman  
Co-Chairs, Carbon Cycle Interagency Working Group